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THIS SUMMER JUST



GOT EVEN HOTTER.



2004 MERCURY MONTEREY CONVENIENCE

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$281 A MONTH/ 24 MONTHS **\$2,176** CASH DUE AT SIGNING* AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDES \$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH**

INCLUDES REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AND ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

2004 MERCURY MONTEREY CONVENIENCE A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$20,350***

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDES \$1,000 FORD CREDIT CASH**



2004 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER V-6 CONVENIENCE AWD

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$249 A MONTH/ 24 MONTHS **\$0** DOWN **\$1,119** CASH DUE AT SIGNING* AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDES \$2,000 FORD CREDIT CASH**

INCLUDES REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AND ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

2004 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER V-6 CONVENIENCE AWD A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$23,087***

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2004 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS GS

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\$6,847 A MONTH/ 36 MONTHS **\$2,496** CASH DUE AT SIGNING* AFTER \$6,750 CASH BACK INCLUDES \$750 FORD CREDIT CASH**

SECURITY DEPOSIT NOT REQUIRED. INCLUDES ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

2004 MERCURY GRAND MARQUIS GS A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$16,813***

AFTER \$6,000 CASH BACK INCLUDES \$2,000 FORD CREDIT CASH**



2004 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE

RED CARPET LEASE FOR A/D/Z FORD EMPLOYEES, RETIREES AND ELIGIBLE FAMILY MEMBERS.

\$426 A MONTH/ 36 MONTHS **\$2,496** CASH DUE AT SIGNING* AFTER \$6,750 CASH BACK INCLUDES \$750 FORD CREDIT CASH**

INCLUDES REFUNDABLE SECURITY DEPOSIT AND ACQUISITION FEE. EXCLUDES TAX, TITLE AND LICENSE FEES.

2004 LINCOLN TOWN CAR SIGNATURE A-PLAN PRICE STARTING AT

\$31,277***

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Student of the Month program helps children save for the future

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

This year more than 195 Romulus High School students were able to save money for their future thanks to the Student of the Month program at the school.

Each student who was designated as a student of the month during the school year received a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond.

Students are nominated for the distinction by their teachers who chose students based on outstanding citizenship and academic work.

Assistant principal Don Foley said that he believes this program does more than just help

students start saving for their futures.

"Our staff members all agree that the program provides a strong incentive for all of our students to do good things in their classes," said Foley.

The program, which has been in existence for 12 years, has given more than \$261,000 to 5,226 student winners, a feat that Foley said could not have been reached without the support of the community.

"We were happy to receive the support of 22 Romulus area businesses and 22 individuals including the community, staff and the board of education for this school year," said Foley.

At the end of each school year there is a grand prize drawing for all of the students who have been honored throughout the year.

This year, the \$500 grand prize-winner was Megan Bearman, a junior at the high school. Bearman said she is planning on using her prize to help with the costs of her college education.

Additional final drawing winners included Patrick McCollum, who won \$200 and Jennifer Dick, who took home an extra \$100. Other \$50 winners included JuJuan Wright, Ryan Tackett, Ummer Ahmad, Gloria Suckarski and Britany Wright.



Anna Bossidis, left, and Romulus High School assistant principal Dan Foley, right, awarded junior Megan Bearman the \$500 grand prize in the Student of the Month program.



Among the 35 middle school students who attended the Romulus/Belleville summer school program were (left) math teacher Jay Hammer, Jay Schmidt, Jasmine Hayes, Autumn King, Tricia Davidson and Josh Sualhoub.

Summer school students improve skills

Ashley Lawrence
Staff Writer

The meaning of summer changed for 174 high school and middle school students in Romulus and Belleville this year.

These students took part in a joint summer school program offered at Romulus High School from June 22 through July 29.

But, according to summer school principal Jaime Nelson, summer school is not what it used to be.

"The majority of the students we have attending summer school have nothing to do with failing a course," said Nelson. "Some of the students are enrolled to receive a credit to put them ahead the following school year. Some students are here because they needed to receive some more attention in a given subject."

Students attending the program are able to take no more than two classes during the summer, receiving half a credit for each course. Nelson said the block scheduling allows more freedom in the classroom for students and for teachers.

"Students are with their teachers for a longer period of

time, so there is more attention given to a subject than during the regular school year," she said.

Another positive aspect of attending summer school is the class size, said Nelson.

During the school year, students sometimes find themselves in large class sizes, but during the summer the sizes are smaller and allow for more individual attention to be given to students in need of the extra help.

"Summer school tends to be a little bit more laid back," said Nelson. "Students who, during the school year, feel as though they are the only ones who don't understand something, don't feel like that during the summer program."

Nelson said she believes this is because students within the program seem to feel as though they can obtain success in their summer school class because of the amount of time spent with the teacher. Those same students during the school year find it hard to receive the same amount of extra help from teachers, she said.

Nelson, who is a language arts teacher at Romulus High School during the school year,

said she is proud of the success her students have achieved this summer.

"We have had students make the best of their education this summer and earn credits toward graduation," she said. "Summer school is a good thing for many students."

Students like Jay Hammer, a junior high student at Romulus Middle School. Hammer is attending summer school to improve his math skills.

Jay Schmitt, Hammer's math teacher said, "Jay has received 100 percent scores on nearly all his exams so far."

This is an improvement for Hammer, who said he had difficulty when his family moved to Romulus this year.

Hammer said the math he learned in Ohio was "completely different" from the math taught in the Romulus schools and this caused him a lot of trouble during the school year. But after attending summer school, Hammer is confident that he has grasped the material and will have no problems during the upcoming school year.

"My grades are right up there now and I can understand the Michigan system much better," said Hammer.

Plan

FROM PAGE 1

incorporating open space and reducing the allowable residential density.

City officials want to define the downtown portion of Romulus with street trees, buildings and sidewalks, improve parking, and create a place for people to gather. The plan also calls for the city to promote dining, entertainment and retail uses in the downtown area.

In the Five Points section of the city, the plan calls for the creation of a dramatic entry at the Five Points intersection and include street trees, buildings and sidewalks to promote retail, service and office uses, as well as create a place for people to gather.

In the southern gateway, the plan calls for another dramatic entry point into Romulus at the Eureka Road and I-275 interchange. The city also wants to define this area with street trees, buildings and sidewalks and to promote research, office and supportive uses.

Officials have also devised a neighborhood plan that earmarks key neighborhood concepts that will be citywide.

"We really wanted to look at how the industrial and residential portions of the city work together," said Lyon. "We feel we have done that within this updated master plan."

One of the new implementations will be a transportation plan.

Under the transportation plan, the city wants to balance all modes of transportation whether it is the street, air, pathway, transit or rail. The plan also calls for the control of driveway spacing and locations and to consider road improvements or realignments, intersection changes and new technology to improve traffic flow in the city.

An interconnected pathway and sidewalk system may also be developed throughout the city.

The updated master plan includes an upgrade of the aging infrastructure, continued monitoring of emergency response needs and the upgrade of park and recreation facilities.

In order to implement all of the new ideas, officials have devised a list of the top 10 priorities that need to be implemented to provide the resources and room for the improvements.

First, the city must update the zoning ordinances in accordance with the new plan, then pursue

We really encourage residents to take part in the process. There are no political lines with something like this. It is planning for the future of our city. This is fun.

Cynthia Lyon

appropriate zoning changes and adopt design guidelines and requirements for the sub-areas, which include the downtown and Five Points areas.

Finally the city proposes to seek opportunities for recreation and open space, to promote neighborhoods associations, to coordinate with the Wayne County Road Commission and to support the infrastructure upgrades compatible with the future land use map.

"We really encourage residents to take part in this process," said Lyon. "There are no political lines with something like this. It is planning for the future of our city. This is fun."

There will be a final public hearing at 7 p.m. on Aug. 26 in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers for residents to voice their opinions on the updated master plan.

on the model we used in our schools."

"Our teachers have said that this is the best model they have ever been involved with," he said. "It has taught them so much about the technology that has and will be entering the classroom in the future."

Grant

FROM PAGE 1

Department of Education has been impressed with the success the Romulus schools have found with the program.

Eighth annual triathlon names winning athletes

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Athletic coaches in the area might well take note of the talent displayed last week during the Eighth Annual Summer Kid's Triathlon.

The event, sponsored by the Belleville Parks and Recreation Commission, took place on the Belleville High School track, bringing together children of Belleville, Van Buren Township and Sumpter Township, community volunteers and fans. Each age division in the rigorous competition—ages 3-4, 5-7, 8-10 and 11-13—participated in a shot put, long jump and run division.

Commissioner Jim Powers said that the parks and recreation

department took a natural part in the triathlon in order to make it happen.

"The idea is to keep kids active in the summer-time," he said. "There are so few things that kids can do in the community. This event gives them something positive."

Powers said that compared to previous years, the turnout was unexpected as only 37 children participated.

"It runs hot and cold," he said. "Last year we had more participants. I don't know if the weather was a factor, but I do know that

the school track and field coaches will get some great names out of the phenomenal entries that we did have."

They get out there and concentrate hard in order to do their best. Sometimes I think that we adults get more out of it than the kids.

**Jim Powers, Commissioner
Belleville Parks and Recreation**

Multiple event winners included: Ike Marchie, A.J. Santavy, Jay Robbins, William Herring, Scott Fleming, Tauni Olds, Blake Morgan, Hunter Muckel, Nicholas Eller, Jason Flourney and Evan Basnaw.

Other winners included: Gerald Armstrong, Jaiden Roberson, Zachary Bongiorno, Bradley Rice, James Flournoy, Seth Lambricht, Alexis Wade, Sylvia Wade and Brendan Papin.

Each contestant left with coupons, ribbons and a participation button. First through third place winners received a medal.

Overall, Powers said the kids had a great time.

"The joy that we get out of it is watching those kids," said Powers. "They get out there and

concentrate hard in order to do their best. Sometimes I think that we adults get more out of it than the kids."

He added that the program would not have been possible without the cooperation of the Van Buren Public Schools, the Van Buren Township Police Department, volunteers from St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Cool Cone in Belleville and other community volunteers. They all work hard year-round to provide activities for the children such as the skate park, fireworks display, baseball trips and more, said Powers.

"We were thanked by the children and the parents for throwing the event. That's why we do it. It's a great feeling," he said.

Local secretary of state office to be closed for week-long remodeling

The secretary of state branch office located at 795 Sumpter Road in Belleville will be closed from Aug. 9 through Aug. 16 for remodeling.

Once the branch reopens, it will be one of 22 new secretary of state PLUS offices.

These new PLUS offices will offer expanded hours on Wednesdays, on-site customer service specialists, convenience and other enhanced service options. In the

future, customers will also have the ability to pay by credit card and take advantage of a self-service option for vehicle registration renewal.

During the closure, customers can visit nearby offices located in Romulus at 36608 Goddard, or in Ypsilanti at 2720 Washtenaw.

Visit www.Michigan.gov/sos for more information.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN NOTICE OF PRIMARY ELECTION AUGUST 3, 2004

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren that a Primary Election will be held TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2004.

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST.

Polling place locations for Van Buren Township:

Precinct #1	Fire Station #1	1304th St.
Precinct #2	Fire Station #2	45581 Ecorse Rd.
Precinct #3	Tyler School	42200 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #4	Belleville High Auditorium	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #5	South Middle School	45201 Owen St.
Precinct #6	Belleville High Auditorium	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #7	Van Buren Township Hall	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #8	North Middle School	47097 McBride
Precinct #9	Haggerty School	13770 Haggerty Rd.

Candidates of the Republican and Democratic parties and non-partisan candidates for the following offices will be voted upon:

Representative in Congress
State Representative
Prosecuting Attorney
County Clerk
County Treasurer
Register of Deeds
County Commissioner
Judge of the Circuit Court Non-Incumbent Position - Vote 1

And in Township
Supervisor
Clerk
Treasurer
Trustees

COUNTY PROPOSALS

PROPOSAL Q

Ballot Advisory Questions

PROPOSAL R

Removal of Commissioner for Cause

Applications for Absentee Voter Ballots are available at the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Belleville, MI 48111, 734-699-8909. Deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the August 3, 2004 Primary Election is Saturday, July 31, 2004 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Township Clerk's Office.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: July 22, 2004
July 29, 2004

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDINANCE 07-06-04 PROPOSED REZONING MAP

Second reading of ordinance for adoption.

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ZONING ORDINANCE 6-6-92, AS AMENDED, OF THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BY AMENDING THE ZONING MAP IN CONNECTION THEREWITH.

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN ORDAINS:

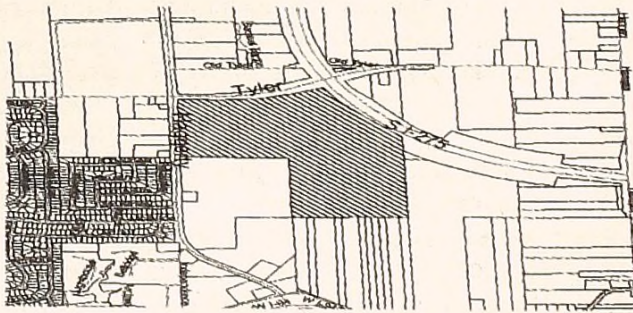
Section 1. The Zoning Map in connection with the Zoning Ordinance of the Charter Township of Van Buren shall be amended so that the zoning of the following described property to wit:

Ordinance Number 07-06-04

To rezone parcel number(s): Parcel number V125-83-050-99-0001-000 from M-1 (Light Industrial), R-M (Multiple family) and AG (Agricultural/Large Estate) to 0-T (Office Technology).

Legal Description of Property:

Parcel number V125-83-050-99-0001, located at the southeast corner of the intersection of Haggerty and Tyler Roads.



Site

Section 2. All Ordinances and parts of Ordinance in conflict herewith are repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Section 3. This Ordinance shall take effect upon its adoption and publication.

Section 4. This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting held on the 20th day of July, 2004.

Yeas: Rochowiak, Hart, Jahr, Herman, Budd, Payne and King.
Nays: None.
Absent: None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days after its passage.

I hereby certify that Ordinance 07-06-04 was published in the Belleville Enterprise, a newspaper circulating within the Charter Township of Van Buren.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Township Supervisor

Publish: July 29, 2004

OPINION

Our choices are:

The full-time elected officials in Plymouth and Van Buren townships will face a tough battle Tuesday, when they vie for the right to be on the Nov. 2 ballot.

And that's a good thing, because these are important roles within the community. When the competition is good, the candidates are good and it generally translates into better results for the entire community.

In **Plymouth Township**, there are six candidates seeking the three executive positions within the government.

Richard Reaume and **Don Schnettler** are competing for the role of supervisor, because incumbent **Steve Mann** is in search of a role as a part-time elected trustee, instead. We think Reaume is the clear choice here. He has experience on an elected board at Schoolcraft College, where he helped oversee a \$60 million budget and 1,000 employees. He also works closely with Plymouth-Canton schools, raising money for classroom teacher grants and summer at-risk programs. That type of positive community involvement is something we like to see. With an experienced board of trustees behind him, he should prosper in the role of supervisor, and the township will prosper with him.

Incumbent Treasurer **Ron Edwards** is defending his seat for the third time, this time against challenger **John Morrison**. Edwards has a controversial past with the township, but we think he's the best man for the job. The recent accolades received by the township for its financial practices give further evidence that he's on top of the township finances and knows what the job is all about. He's helped the township save money at every avenue and has helped push forward projects that had languished in the township, like the recently opened Lake Pointe Soccer Park and the impending township hall.

Clerk **Marilyn Massengill** is also seeking her third term in office. Her task may be the most difficult one, because her opponent, **Lola Isiminger** is just as qualified as she is. In fact, we think Isiminger deserves the nod here. As the deputy clerk in Dearborn, she's familiar with every aspect of the clerk's department and already undertakes many of the tasks assigned to the clerk in Plymouth Township. The staff there is larger, too. Isiminger is well-liked by her peers and has been active in the Wayne County Clerk's Association and aggressively pursued further education relating to her post.

In **Van Buren Township**, we think all the incumbents deserve a chance to continue their good work. In many cases, that extends a long streak of community service. That's important at a time when the township is facing period of dramatic change, with major developments on the way. It's important to have a confident, stable and experienced board now, as much as ever.

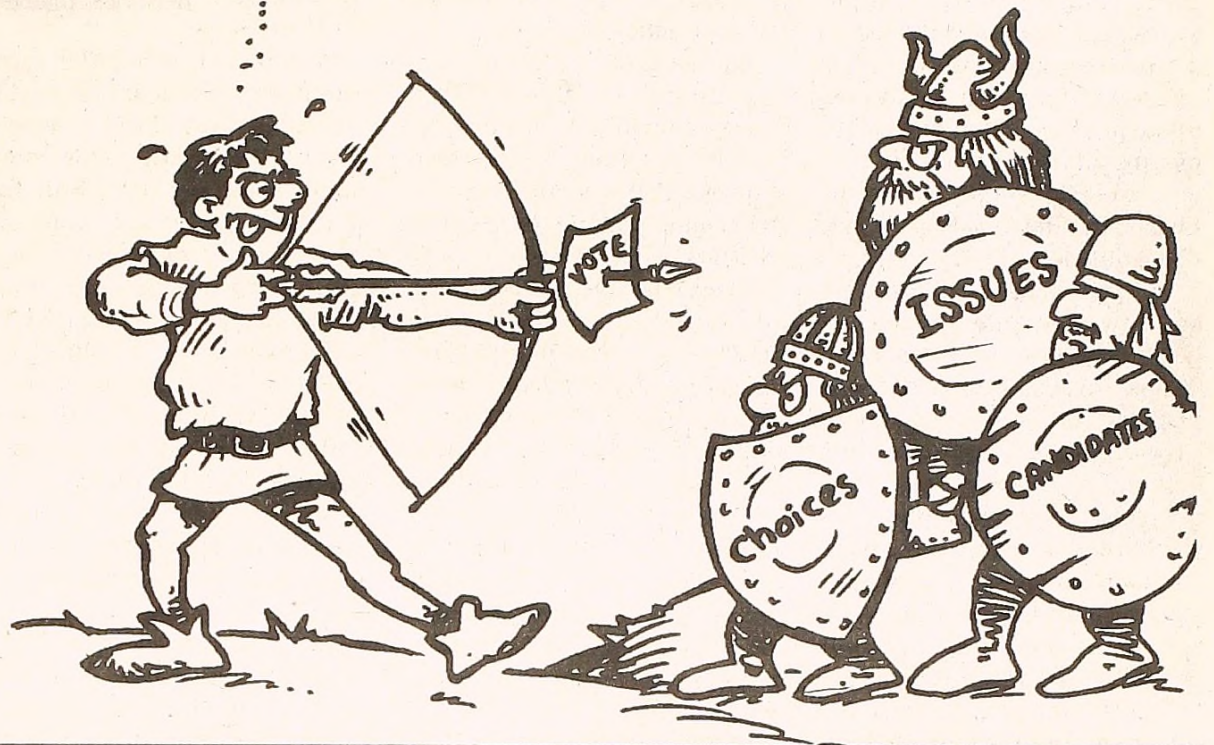
Supervisor **Cindy King** has done an exemplary job during her first term. She knows the township inside and out, having worked there since she was a teen. She's well-liked and well-respected and responsive to her colleagues, citizenry and virtually everyone who cares enough to ask a question.

Likewise, **Sharry Budd** deserves a third term as township treasurer. An employee of the township since 1981, she's served in a variety of roles, from a bookkeeper to deputy clerk. She has a strong knowledge of the township and its finances, and well serve the community well, going forward.

Joannie Payne also has a long history with the township and deserves a second term as clerk. She started to work for Van Buren more than two decades ago as a temporary employee and worked her way up through the ranks, attaining the role of deputy clerk. That means she's well versed, not only in the operations of her own department, but in the general township philosophy, as well. Her

See **Choices**, page 6

GOTTA MAKE IT COUNT...



Not just an ordinary stroll

It wasn't an ordinary stroll.

The sun was high in the afternoon sky. The heat hovering over Ford Road in Canton Township seemed palpable. I could have easily turned around and headed back to the air-conditioned office, but I didn't.

I was determined.

I pressed on.

This was a study after all, a journalistic experiment, and I wasn't ready to give up yet.

There has been a lot of talk about Ford Road in Canton during the years. It's too congested. There are too many accidents. It needs to have more of a 'downtown' feel to it. It is, after all, the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) district from the eastern border of the township to Canton Center Road.

A current study by the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT), responsible for the road, is trying to address such issues. The study will be completed in September and sent to the board of trustees for review. While all the problems above are important, I was concerned with a matter both the MDOT study and the DDA master plan bring up: making Ford Road

more pedestrian-friendly.

I wanted to see for myself just what it was like to walk 'downtown' Canton. So, with a nod to Mister Rogers, I unlaced my dress shoes, strapped on some sneakers and hit the pavement.

I encountered my first problem immediately: finding a comfortable place to park. People come to downtown districts wanting to explore on foot, that's why most have public structures. Sprawling business districts like Ford Road don't have such facilities because of the existing vast oceans of pavement.

This forced me to sheepishly pull into the parking lot of a business I knew I wasn't going to patronize. Getting out of my car, I felt a bit suspicious, like someone from the store was going to come running out and yell, "Hey, he's not buying anything. He can't park there. Get him! Get him!"

I scuttled away from my car as quickly as possible, self-conscious about the fact that I was walking the wrong way. People park their cars, head into the store, buy their goodies and come back to the cars. That's the way it works. I was doing the opposite.

But I saw my destination, the

sidewalk, and

focused on

that. I was

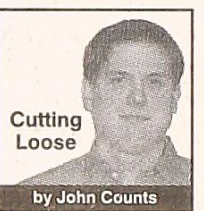
forced to walk from one lot to another, across a strip of grass and then go out of my way to get around the new brick wall. The whole time, all I could think was, "I shouldn't be here." It felt as if I was trespassing on someone's property.

I got over it as soon as I was on the sidewalk, the proper place for the pedestrian that I was. I then did what people do on sidewalks: I walked.

The first thing I noticed was that as far down as I could see, I was the only person braving Ford Road on foot that day. Cars and trucks barreled down the road next to me at a steady pace. I can't say I was choking on the fumes, but it wasn't exactly like hiking a trail on Isle Royale, a National Park in Lake Superior, where they don't allow cars, or meandering down a tree-lined city street.

At Lilley, I decided to cross to the other side. This was a bit unnerving. Drivers along this stretch of the road aren't keeping an eye out for pedestrians. They

See **Stroll**, page 6



Cutting Loose

by John Counts

View life from a new perspective

I try to keep up a daily routine of physical exercise by walking every day and jumping rope. It's always good to get the old heart pumping, and exercise is something everyone should do.

I also think it's a good idea to keep yourself mentally healthy and that means making an effort to gain new perspectives on life. One of the best ways to do that is to mingle with people of other generations. Young people can contribute greatly to an older person's attitude, just as I think older people can have a positive influence on younger folks.

Sometimes in an older generation, we have a tendency to look down our nose and talk about the

good old days and things aren't like they used to be. And younger people tend to dismiss my generation's ideas as "old fashioned."

I'd like to see people of all ages take opportunities to connect with each other and understand each other's point of view. If you're at church or a social gathering, spend some time getting to know people of all ages once in a while. It may mean getting out of your comfort zone, but the reward is a healthier attitude and it's well worth the effort.

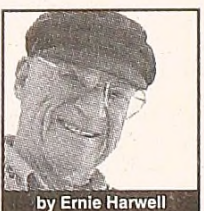
And please remember to take care of your health before it's longggg gone!

Ernie Harwell, "the voice of the Detroit Tigers"

for more than four decades, retired after 55 years behind a major league microphone.

Today, at age 86, Ernie's days are filled with serving as a health and fitness advocate for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, public appearances, writing, traveling and taking long walks with "Miss Lulu," his wife of more than 60 years.

His latest book, a collection of his baseball columns entitled "Life After Baseball," is available at local bookstores or by calling 1-800-245-5082.



by Ernie Harwell

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A tale of 2 Plymouths

I've heard that some Plymouth residents must think hard when asked if they live in the city or the township. I suppose that's understandable: residents of both, after all, have the same plain and unsuspecting "Plymouth, MI" mailing addresses; it is likewise easy to tell friends, "I live in Plymouth," and forget the formal discriminations.

It's possible some folks don't know two separate municipalities exist. Those people may be finding Plymouth life a bit more puzzling this summer, as township election campaigns spill over the map lines. If you have driven into downtown Plymouth, you have seen it: yard signs have sprouted overnight, demanding your vote for township supervisor, or trustee. That's a tough order, if you're a city resident.

The Plymouths are two, of course, and very different; they are competitors as well. As size and census numbers go, the township has the city beat; the township also enjoys better financial health. And township officials take their title seriously. If at a board meeting, a presenter slips-up with "city," the board

reminds the speaker at once. I believe they mandate resignation for board members who make the same gaffe.

But as the Art in the Park curious funneled down Main Street—city turf, if you were still in the dark—from the township and beyond, it was clear why candidates are staking their hopes and yard signs to the city.

Even with the emasculated fountain and deserted Penn Theatre, downtown has draw. Unique outdoor concerts, festivals and dining are all centered around Kellogg Park. It's vibrant and historical, an atmosphere that makes suburbanites forget they live in suburbs. The attraction is double for politicians: it means votes, or the possibility of votes, from those making decisions on the biggest banner or most recognizable name.

Don Schnettler, a supervisor hopeful, is no stranger to using city traffic to his advantage. When he ran a petition drive last summer, he did it out of the former Darry's parking lot, saying the central location was convenient for township residents. This year, there are giant

SCHNETTLER ads in the windows of the old

restaurant, and Schnettler yard signs in the grass near the street.

City Manager Paul Sincok said he has heard a few complaints about the signs. Still, he said the city can't and won't do much unless something violates a city ordinance. This has already happened: the SCHNETTLER banners had to shrink or go: the law limits the size of banner in windows. And yard signs can't be in the city right-of-way. Anything else is fair game.

"It's America," said Sincok, adding that there are signs for judges and sheriff candidates as well.

Sincok's correct: candidates have a right to reach potential voters. On the local level, hiking door to door and sticking your name in the ground are practically the limits of campaigning.

But it's telling that those limits are being pushed into the city. Maybe that's another sign—that the township needs the city more than it's willing to admit.



Local ties

by Kevin Hill

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Stroll

FROM PAGE 5

inch closer and closer to the light the longer it stays red, ready to bolt the second they see green. You may as well be a lamppost to the people making left turns, a bug to those making rights.

The experience was hot, noisy and scary to say the least. I was miserable, but I continued walk-

ing.

Now, I don't mean to pick on poor old Ford Road, or the good men and women who want to solve these problems. But before we encourage people to walk or bicycle on Ford Road, whether it's for recreation or shopping, a lot needs to be done. There needs to be more green spaces, more walkways and more pedestrian-friendly access to businesses. These, though, aren't the biggest hurdles. There are a lot of options

out there—just ask an engineer or a planner—but until we get over the mindset that we are married to our automobile, driving may be the only way to travel Ford Road.

Back on the sidewalk, I was getting tired. I looked ahead and saw the endless, empty stretch of sidewalk before me. I gave up. I headed back to my car, got in and cranked the A/C. I pulled out into traffic and joined the rest of the world.

Choices

FROM PAGE 5

experience in the office will be important as the state turns to a consolidated election system

next year. Her history and experience will give her a good perspective with that, and help ensure the transition is as smooth as possible.

Many people overlook the importance of primary elections, preferring instead to cast

their ballots in November. But August is when many of the decisions are made, particularly for township forms of government. It's important for people to get out and vote Tuesday, as well as in November. It is our civic duty, after all.

Send us your letters

The Journal welcomes all signed letters to the editor and will consider all submissions for publication. Mail letters to:

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Letters may be edited for content or space and must include a phone number for verification of identity.

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JULY

- 30 Carrot Top
- 31 Lewis Black w/ David Dyer

AUGUST

- 7 DSO "Tchaikovsky Spectacular"
- 8 DSO "Classical Mystery Tour: A Tribute to the Beatles"
- 11 Bela Fleck & The Flecktones w/ Keller Williams / Yonder Mountain String Band
- 13 Nashville Star Tour from USA Network Reality Show featuring 2004 winner Brad Cotter
- 14 Franklin The Turtle
- 18 Bob Marley Roots Rock Reggae Festival featuring the Marley Brothers
- 19 "Weird Al" Yankovic
- 22 Cyndi Lauper
- 28 Richard Jeni

SEPTEMBER

- 4 The Robert Cray Band / Buddy Guy

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Everyday heroes

Organization seeks nominees for unique award program

Meghan Chatham
Staff Writer

While heroes are common on the movie screen, it is the hero next door that interests the Red Cross.

The Southeastern Michigan Chapter of the American Red Cross is searching for individuals who deserve public recognition as part of the Everyday Heroes program.

"I have seen many heroes throughout my years of public service," said Isaiah McKinnon, a retired Detroit police chief and a 1997 Everyday Hero nominee. "Heroes think not of themselves but of others. They act voluntarily and impartially, and often times at their own risk." McKinnon will lead the committee to select the individuals selected for recognition with a hero's luncheon later this year.

Red Cross officials are asking for nominations of individuals who have shown courage and nobility of purpose toward their fellow man.

While some of the individuals honored perform blatantly heroic acts, such as the off duty police officer from Hamtramck who combated ice cold water in order to rescue two men from Lake St. Clair in January of last year, others are more subtle. For instance, a Highland teen earned the honor for performing the Heimlich maneuver on his choking mother. Another man was recognized for becoming a bone marrow donor and saving the life of a 2-year-old child.

To qualify, a nominee must have lived in or performed a heroic act in Wayne, Oakland, or Macomb county between Aug. 1, 2003 and July 31, 2004.

The deadline for nominations is Aug. 11. Nominations may be submitted online at www.semredcross.org or by calling 313 494-3490. Honorees will be selected from all entries received, and honored before their family, friends, and peers with a luncheon, presented by General Motors, on Wednesday, Nov. 17 at Marriott-Renaissance Center.

Scooby-Do, where are you?

Help Scooby-Do and his gang solve a mystery from 5-7 p.m. Saturday, July 31 at the Summit on the Park. Participants will investigate the scene, collect clues and help unmask the villain who would have gotten away with his crime if it weren't for those pesky kids.

Scooby will be present for photo opportunities. The event is open to all ages. There is a \$5 early registration fee for residents and an \$8 fee for everyone the week of the event. For more information, call Canton Township Leisure Services, 734 394-5460.



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Summertime 'heats up' at annual chili cook off

Andrea King
Staff Writer

Hot summer days in Belleville are going to get even hotter.

The Belleville Area Jaycees will host the Second Annual Chili Cook-off and Boat Parade next month to generate funds for the community.

The event will take place from 1-4 p.m. on Aug. 29 at The Belleville Grille, 146 High St. in downtown Belleville, with a boat parade to follow on Belleville Lake. Entry fees are \$25 for the chili

cook-off. The boat parade entry is free. Contestants in the boat parade are welcome to decorate their boats in whatever theme they desire. All proceeds, including those from a 50/50 raffle, go to benefit community charitable efforts, according to Jaycee President Erika Meyers.

"Half of what we make will go to families, gift baskets and food for the needy during the holidays," she said. "Although we don't have any specific charities, a big part of what we do is for the community."

Area celebrity judges will begin their duties for the chili contest at 1 p.m. and prizes for Judge's Choice and People's Choice will be awarded. Chili will be judged on aroma, smell, texture, sight and taste. First, second and third place trophies will also be presented to winners of the boat parade. Judging will be based on creativity, costumes, enthusiasm and decorations.

"Last year we had about eight participants in the chili contest and three contestants in the boat parade," said Meyers. "We're hoping that getting the word-out earlier this year will make a difference."

Meyers said she is very proud of the honor the group won last year—the Best Public Relations Project for the 2003 Chili

Cook-Off—awarded to the Jaycees last year at the annual Michigan Jaycees convention.

"The award only propels us to do better this year, helping us to be more prepared," said Meyers.

And Meyers noted that the Belleville Jaycees are always looking for new members.

The organization is for the voices of the younger generation; made up of young adults between the ages 21 and 39. Anyone younger or older can become an honorary member, said Meyers. The Jaycees' mission is to become better people, leaders and community members through volunteer and community based projects. They pride themselves in bettering the community and providing opportunities for residents to get involved, meet new people and make a difference, she said.

Membership fees are \$65 a year and include benefits such as: planned activities, leadership opportunities and training, management training, sales and marketing opportunities, public relations work, discounts and business and social networking.

Half of what we make will go to families, gift baskets and food for the needy during the holidays.

Erika Meyers



Belleville Area Jaycees will host their second annual chili cook-off and boat parade from 1-4 p.m. on Aug. 29 at The Belleville Grille, 146 High St. in downtown Belleville, with a boat parade to follow on Belleville Lake. Entry fees are \$25 for the chili cook-off. The boat parade entry is free. Last year, this costumed crew was among the boat parade winners.

Currently, there are about 20 members, but Meyers said that she hopes the chapter will grow.

"We are always looking for more people who want to help the community and have a good time," she said.

Meetings are at 7:30 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at the Belleville

Area Chamber of Commerce, 397 Main St.

Information regarding the chili cook-off and boat parade is available from Shelly Brown-Elden at 734-776-5848 or mail an entry form to The Belleville Area Jaycees, 460 E. Huron River Dr. Belleville, 48111. Entries will not be accepted after Aug. 25.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, August 10, 2004 at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

The Public Hearing relates to Parcel Number V125-83-131-99-0008-000 and V125-83-131-99-0007000, also know as 16565 & 16595 Elwell Road, The properties are located on the east side of Elwell Road, between Bak and Lohr Roads.

The subject site is located within the Charter Township of Van Buren AG (Agricultural) Zoning District. The applicant, Dena Ostrowski, is requesting a variance to the Township's Lot Split Ordinance, Section 78-168 to permit the creation of 2 non-conforming parcels of land.

The applicant is requesting a variance to:

SECTION 78-168 LOT SPLIT ORDINANCE

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

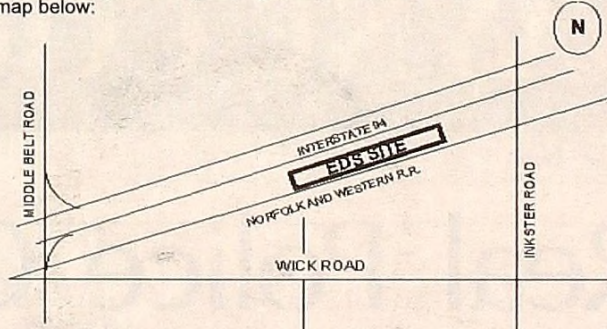
Publish: July 29, 2004

PUBLIC NOTICE

DRAFT HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITY OPERATING LICENSE
ENVIRONMENTAL DISPOSAL SYSTEMS, INC.
ROMULUS, MICHIGAN

Environmental Disposal Systems, Inc. (EDS), has applied for a hazardous waste management facility operating license for its aboveground storage and treatment facilities from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). The operating license is required under Part 111, Hazardous Waste Management, of Michigan's Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended (Act 451), for EDS to operate its newly-constructed facility located at 28470 Citrin Drive, Romulus, Michigan. Before the MDEQ makes a final determination on whether EDS satisfies the licensing requirements, the MDEQ is seeking public input on a draft operating license for the facility.

The EDS facility is permitted under other programs to inject hazardous waste waters from off-site generators into deep injection wells. The aboveground portion of the facility where hazardous wastes are stored in tanks and containers and treated in tanks prior to disposal in the deep injection wells requires an operating license from the MDEQ. The site is approximately 15 acres in size and its location is shown on the map below:



The MDEQ issued EDS a construction permit for the aboveground storage and treatment facilities in February 2001. An operating license for the aboveground portion of the facility is now required. The actual deep well injection of hazardous waste is subject to regulation by the United States Environmental Protection Agency pursuant to the federal Underground Injection Control Program.

In deciding whether to issue the operating license, the MDEQ considers: (1) the adequacy of the application; (2) requirements for the design, construction, and operation of the facility; (3) whether the applicant has obtained all other environmental permits, licenses, and approvals necessary for operation of the facility; (4) the applicant's environmental compliance history; (5) whether the applicant has constructed the facility in accordance with the approved plans and specifications and complied with the conditions in the construction permit; and (6) special operating license conditions necessary to address concerns raised by the public (limits on truck traffic, maintaining an alternate access road, training for emergency responders, etc.). The MDEQ does not reconsider the suitability of the facility location when deciding on the operating license unless new information or standards indicate that a threat to human health or the environment exists, which was not known at the time the construction permit was issued. Also, the MDEQ cannot consider comments regarding operation of the deep injection wells that have already been permitted under other regulatory programs as part of the licensing process.

The MDEQ has evaluated the operating license application submitted by EDS and considered each of the six items identified above. The MDEQ's preliminary determination regarding the issuance of an operating license is presented in a detailed fact sheet. At this time the MDEQ is asking for comments from the public before it makes a final decision.

The draft operating license, fact sheet, and application may be reviewed at the Romulus Public Library located at 11121 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan; at the MDEQ's Southeast Michigan District Office located at 38980 West Seven Mile Road, Livonia, Michigan (contact Ms. Bonnie Pawloske at 734-953-1408); and at the MDEQ's Waste and Hazardous Materials Division office located at Constitution Hall, Atrium North, 525 West Allegan Street, Lansing, Michigan (contact Mr. Steve Sliver at 517-373-1976). Information is also available on the Internet at <http://www.michigan.gov/deq> by navigating to "Waste," "Hazardous and Liquid Industrial Waste," and then "Hazardous and Liquid Industrial Waste Management."

The public comment period for the draft operating license begins July 22, 2004, and ends September 23, 2004. Written comments will be accepted during the public comment period and must be postmarked by September 23, 2004. In addition, a public hearing is scheduled for Thursday, September 9, 2004, at the Romulus High School Auditorium, 9650 South Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing is to allow interested persons to submit comments regarding the draft operating license. Both oral and written comments will be accepted during the public hearing. Speakers will be asked to register at the public hearing and to limit their presentations to allow time for everyone who is interested in speaking. Persons with disabilities needing accommodations for effective participation in this public hearing should contact Mr. Sliver at the address below, or at 517-373-1976, at least a week in advance of the hearing to request mobility, visual, hearing, or other assistance.

Before making a final decision on the draft operating license, the MDEQ will evaluate all comments received. The MDEQ will prepare a responsiveness summary addressing all significant comments and identify how the draft operating license will be impacted. Information regarding the final decision will be communicated to all persons who submit written comments and to all persons on the facility mailing list.

Requests, comments, and questions regarding the draft operating license should be addressed to Mr. Steve Sliver, Hazardous Waste and Radiological Protection Section, Waste and Hazardous Materials Division, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, P.O. Box 30241, Lansing, Michigan 48909-7741, or by e-mail at slivers@michigan.gov.

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CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES JULY 20, 2004

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Herman, Trustee Jahr and Trustee Rochowiak. Absent and excused: None. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Recreation and Facilities Director Ross, Deputy Public Safety Director Smolen, Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley, Senior Director Combs, Engineer Nummer, Lieutenant Brooks, Executive Assistant Ireland, Secretary Cline and an audience of thirty (30).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the agenda with the following amendments: Under "Public Hearing" remove Item #3 "To establish a Street Lighting Special Assessment District to install street lights in the Pine Forest Subdivision." and under "New Business" remove Item #4 "Consider adoption of Resolution 2004-20, to establish a special assessment district (SAD) for the purpose of installing and maintaining streetlights in the Pine Forest Subdivision." Also under "New Business" move Item #13 "Consider approval of Personal Services Agreement between Van Buren Township and Sarah Scherdt to fill the position of Senior Coordinator and authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement." to Item #1 and renumber the remaining "New Business" agenda items. Carried.

PUBLIC HEARING: Hart moved Jahr seconded to open the public hearing to present and discuss reallocation of fiscal year 2003-2004 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds in the amount of \$93,867 from Un-programmed Funds to categories of Demolition in the amount of \$60,000 and Community Housing Rehabilitation in the amount of \$33,867. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Planning and Zoning Administrator Pugsley for an explanation. Administrator Pugsley stated the purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive comments on the reallocation of \$93,867 in Un-programmed CDBG funds. Administrator Pugsley gave an overview of the three national objectives for projects as follows: to benefit low/moderate income persons, prevent or eliminate slum and/or blight and to meet urgent community needs. The proposed reallocations are in the following two categories: Demolition of blight and dilapidated structures in the amount of \$60,000 and Community Housing Rehabilitation in the amount of \$33,867. The Community Housing Rehabilitation program is an interest free loan for eligible residents to make improvements to their homes. Upon completion of the repairs a lien is placed on the property and the loan is repaid when the home is either sold or refinanced. The monies are then returned to CDBG program to be redistributed to eligible residents.

Supervisor King stated these are some of the last Federal monies returned to local communities.

Trustee Jahr thanked Administrator Pugsley for clarifying the Community Housing Rehabilitation program is an interest free loan program to be repaid and not a grant.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Herman moved, Hart seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

Jahr moved, Payne seconded to open the public hearing to establish a Street Lighting Special Assessment District to install street lights in the Walden Woods Subdivision Phase 3. Carried.

Supervisor King opened the public hearing and went to Director Kelley for an explanation. Director Kelley stated this is a program DTE Energy Company provides that is used to install and maintain street lighting. This is the first of two actions by the Board of Trustees to establish a Special Assessment District (SAD) for installing and maintaining overhead street lighting in the Walden Woods Phase 3 Development. This is an option available to developments in the township where DTE Energy will install and maintain overhead street lighting and the homeowners are billed annually. This public hearing is to approve the Special Assessment District area and a second public hearing will be held upon approval of the SAD to approve spreading the special assessment to the tax roll. The Township uses the special assessment process to provide a method to collect payment for street lighting via the property tax bill. Director Kelley further stated prior to this Board Meeting two residents of Walden Woods inquired about several items including the location of the street light poles and stated there is enough time between now and the next Board of Trustee Meeting of August 17, 2004 to have these items addressed.

Supervisor King stated this is to install twelve (12) 100 Watt High-Pressure Sodium Vapor Underground Ornamental Street Lights in Walden Woods Phase 3. The initial capital outlay is \$14,943.50 with the annual cost of \$3,358.25 for service spread among the eighty-six units at a cost of \$39.05 per lot.

Comments from a resident were as follows: Justification from DTE for the annual cost, how this would affect the Homeowners Association when they take over this development, and timeline for installation of the street lights. Supervisor King asked Director Kelley how long it takes DTE Energy to begin a street lighting project? Director Kelley stated DTE Energy would begin after the Township spreads the roll and usually takes DTE Energy between fourteen and twenty-one days to get the engineering done. Director Kelley further stated he would get the resident the information on the DTE Energy computations and this is the most cost effective street lighting program available for developments.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made to close the public hearing.

Rochowiak moved, Payne seconded to close the public hearing. Carried.

MINUTES: Rochowiak moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of July 6, 2004 as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Herman seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes of July 6, 2004 as presented. Carried.

CORRESPONDENCE: Supervisor King read a Press Release regarding the awarding

of \$2 million from the Wayne County Parks Millage for Van Buren Township Park projects.

On Thursday, July 22 d from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Otisville/Sheldon Room in Township Hall there will be a collaborative Public Informational Meeting with Visteon, Michigan Department of Transportation, Wayne County Roads and Van Buren Township representatives. This meeting is open to the public.

Supervisor King received a telephone call from a resident thanking the Police Department for their efforts to keep the residents calm and safe during a recent barricaded gunmen incident in their neighborhood.

Supervisor King received a telephone call from a senior resident thanking the Teen Camp participants for their hard work cleaning her yard as part of a community service project.

A thank you card to the Fire Department and Police Officer Ryan Bidwell from a resident for their assistance last year when her mother passed away.

Supervisor King stated a senior citizen brought in a fraudulent document they had received in the mail regarding winning a lottery and further stated if you receive a fraudulent document contact the police department.

A letter from the American Red Cross stating thirty-six pints of blood were collected at the recent Down River Blood Drive held at the township hall.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Jahr moved, Hart seconded to approve the second reading for adoption of Ordinance 07-06-04, to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to rezone parcel of land known as 9555 Haggerty Road, parcel number V125-83-050-99-0001-000 from M-1 (Light Industrial), R-M (Multiple Family) and AG (Agricultural/Large Estate) to O-T (Office Technology), based on the recommendation of the Planning Commission which finds that: 1) The proposed O-T Office/Technology zoning is generally consistent with the Township's Master Plan, 2) O-T land uses are compatible with the surrounding land uses and are unlikely to adversely impact or affect land value and environmental quality, 3) This amendment will not create an unplanned or spot zoned parcel of land since it is in conformance with the Master Plan, and the recommendation by the Township Planning Consultant in their letter dated June 16, 2004. Roll Call Vote: Yeas: Rochowiak, Hart, Jahr, Herman, Budd, Payne and King. Nays: None. Absent and excused: None. Carried.

*(A copy of Ordinance 07-06-04 follows the minutes. Copies may also be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

NEW BUSINESS: Budd moved, Jahr seconded to approve the Personal Services Agreement between Van Buren Township and Sarah Scherdt to fill the position of Senior Coordinator and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement with an effective date of July 21, 2004. Carried.

Payne moved, Herman seconded to approve the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program project change by reallocating funds in the amount of \$93,867 from Un-programmed Funds to categories of Demolition in the amount of \$60,000 and Community Housing Rehabilitation in the amount of \$33,867. Carried.

Herman moved, Hart seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-18 tentatively declaring its intent to hold public hearings for the establishment of a special assessment district for the purpose of preparing engineering plans and construction documents for the repaving of Venetian and a portion of DeWitt Streets in Section 22 of the Township. Carried.

Budd moved, Rochowiak seconded to adopt Resolution 2004-19 to establish a special assessment district (SAD) for the purpose of installing and maintaining streetlights in the Walden Woods Subdivision Phase 3 and noting the correction of the amount listed under #1 in the resolution to \$3,358.52. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve a permit application by SBC to construct underground telecommunications infrastructure in the Township. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Payne seconded to approve the Agreement for the Visteon Village Lake Fringe Wetlands construction project between the Charter Township of Van Buren and Dan's Excavating in the amount of \$294,543.50, to authorize an additional \$29,454 in construction project funding as a 10% contingency to be used at the direction and discretion of the Environmental Director, and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the Agreement. One half of these amounts, \$147,271.75 and \$14,727 respectively, will be funded by the Rouge Program Office grant and the other half will be funded by the Local Development Finance Authority. Carried.

Hart moved, Herman seconded to approve the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Tree Planting Grant Agreement between the Charter Township of Van Buren and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the amount of \$17,600 and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Jahr seconded to approve the DTE Energy Tree Planting Grant Agreement between the Charter Township of Van Buren and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (DNR) in the amount of \$3,000 and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Carried.

Hart moved, Herman seconded to approve the first reading of Ordinance 07-20-04 to amend the Township Zoning Ordinance, 06-02-92, as amended, to establish new regulations pertaining to Planned Elderly Housing Development (PEHD) as a Special Approval Use in Section 7.04.A as presented with the understanding that the Planning Commission will review the following items: the required amount of brick on the exterior of the building(s), driveway language to be added to each portion as needed and change of the ordinance name. Carried.

*(A synopsis of Ordinance 07-20-04 follows the minutes. A complete copy may also be obtained in the Clerk's Office, Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road during normal business hours.)

Jahr moved, Payne seconded to approve the Wastewater Conveyance and Disposal

Continued on page 11

OBITUARIES

AKANS, Richard W. II

Richard William "Rick" Akans II, 50, of Belleville, died July 20.

Among his survivors are his wife, Diana E. (Bennett) Akans; son, Chad (Anna Mantalova) Akans of Belleville; stepchildren, Michell (Don) Fuller of Savannah, GA and Michael O'Rourke of Taylor; his step-mother, Janice Akans; sisters, Lynn (Russ) Gorman of Bethlehem, CT and Kathie (Tom) Leonzi of Woodbury, CT, and a grandson, Yiorgos Akans of Belleville.

Mr. Akans was a former member of the Belleville City Council. He was a member of the Belleville Lighthouse Church and the American Radio Relay League.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Keith Jackson officiating.

Interment was at Hillside Cemetery.

BANOTAI, Marvin Lyle

Marvin Lyle Banotai, 58, of Hillman, formerly of Belleville, died July 24.

Among his survivors are his wife of more than 25 years, ViAnn (Bertram) Banotai; children, Pam (Jeff) Carter of Atlanta, Debbie (Curt) Duncan of Brighton, Millie (Larry) Dean of Rose City, Monica (Bob) Jones of Belleville, Lue (Mark Friese) Pullen of New Boston, Craig (Charlene) Banotai of Chelsea, Jeff (Mary) Banotai of Ypsilanti, Laura (Keith) Hollis of Belleville and Scott Banotai of Ypsilanti; his mother Sarah

Virginia (Collyer) Banotai of Chelsea; a brother, Louis (Brenda) Banotai, Jr. of Ypsilanti; a nephew, Mark Banotai; 16 grandchildren; three great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews.

Mr. Banotai served in the U.S. Air Force National Guard. He retired from the Ford Motor Co. Rawsonville Road Plant where he served as the employee assistance coordinator and was a union representative for more than 30 years. Mr. Banotai served as the police commissioner for Sumpter Township and served as township supervisor for 12 years. He was also an 18-year veteran of the Van Buren Township Police Department where he was a detective.

He was a member of the Belleville Moose Lodge and St. Paul Lutheran Church in New Boston. He joined the Alpena Moose Lodge and the Cummings Eagles when he moved from Belleville and volunteered as a youth counselor and mentor in Alpena and Atlanta.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Leland Jordon officiating.

Interment was at Union-Udell Cemetery in Ypsilanti.

THOMAS, Thomas E. "Tommy"

Thomas E. Thomas, 31, of Monroe, formerly of Wayne, died recently.

Among his survivors are his wife, Lisa; his father, William Thomas; a brother, Michael

Thomas; sisters, Christina and Sarah, and his grandparents Ernie and Agnes Leasure.

Funeral services were at the Harry J. Will Funeral Home with the Rev. David Dahlbergh officiating.

Interment was at Parkview Memorial Park in Livonia.

THOMASON, Angeline R.

Angeline R. Thomason, 83, of Wayne, died June 29.

Among her survivors are her daughters, Judy Jaynes, Paonnie Booth and Lor (Paul) Michalik; three grandsons, and three great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the Uht Funeral Home in Westland with the Rev. Bob McDonald officiating.

Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland.

BOXRUD, Joanne G.

Joanne G. Boxrud, 74, of Westland, formerly of Belleville, died July 13.

Among her survivors are her husband, Daniel Boxrud; children, Charles R. (Mary) Grey; and siblings

Vance J. (Bobbi) Chipman; Joyce Neal, Mary Ellen Coutoumanos and Connie Watts.

Funeral services were at Vermeulen Trust 100 Funeral Home in Westland.

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Continued from page 10

Contract between Van Buren Township and Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the contract. Carried.

Rochowiak moved, Herman seconded to approve the Industrial Pretreatment Delegation Agreement between Ypsilanti Communities Utilities Authority and Van Buren Township and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to execute the agreement. Carried.

Herman moved, Hart seconded to approve the agreement between Ypsilanti Communities Utilities Authority (YCUA), Van Buren Township, Sumpter Township and Jarvis Associates LLC for sewer service for 7477 Rawsonville Road and to authorize the Supervisor and Clerk to sign the agreement. Carried.

Jahr moved, Budd seconded to approve the reappointments of Holly Conrad and Raymond Bailey to the Public Safety Committee with terms to expire July 30, 2006 and the appointment of Rick Ross to the Public Safety Committee with term to expire July 30, 2005. Carried.

VOUCHER LIST: Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the July 20, 2004 voucher list as presented. Carried.

REPORTS: Supervisor King ordered the June 2004 Public Safety Report received and filed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: The "Camp with a Cop" program is scheduled for August 20th through August 22nd Van Buren Park. It is open to children ages 9-14 years old who are residents of Van Buren Township or the City of Belleville. Space is limited to the first 80 children. Applications are available at the Van Buren Public Safety Department.

On August 19th the Michigan Department of Natural Resources the Fisheries Division will host a Potential Bass Season Changes Public Meeting in the Otisville/Sheldon Room in the township offices at 7:00 p.m. In addition other meeting will be held in Novi, Chesterfield and Adrian.

There will not be a Board Meeting on August 3, 2004 due to the Primary Election and the next Regular Board Meeting will be held on August 17, 2004 at 7:30 p.m. Absentee ballots are available and ballots are currently being processed by the Clerk's Office. The last day to pick up an absentee ballot is Saturday, July 31, 2004. The Clerk's Office will be open on this date from 9:00 am. until 2:00 p.m. In addition, Clerk Payne reminded voters that in a Primary Election you cannot cross vote or split your partisan portion of the ballot. Contact the Clerk's Office at 699.8909 for additional information on this or other voting questions.

The Recreation Department is offering the following programs and events. The Summer Concert Series at Van Buren Park are held on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and will run through August 11th with performances by various musical groups. Also, the Van Buren Recreation Department and the Belleville Parks Commission proudly present a Detroit Tigers baseball trip on Friday, August 6th, at 7:05 p.m. For further information on programs and events contact the Recreation Department at 699.8921.

AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items): A resident from Charter Club Estates inquired about a letter he submitted to the Supervisor regarding issues at his home. Supervisor King stated she did not read the letter at the meeting but had forwarded a copy of the letter to the Board of Trustees and legal council. In addition, the resident made inquiries regarding the Open Meetings Act.

CLOSED SESSION: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Jahr moved, Payne seconded to adjourn at 9:58 p.m. Carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King
Township Supervisor

Publish: July 29, 2004

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THE SCENE

A BOURNE winner

Spy sequel is as good as original

When Jason Bourne vowed to retaliate if anyone from his past attempted to contact him two years ago in *The Bourne Identity*, they should have listened.

Now that his dark past creeps back up on him in the second installment of best selling author Robert Ludlums' series, *The Bourne Supremacy*, Bourne can do only one thing—make good on his threat. And he does.

Matt Damon returns to the screen as Bourne, a trained assassin from the now dismantled CIA Treadstone operation that spawned cold-blooded assassins. He's running from a past he can't remember due to amnesia.

At the end of the first film, he was on a Greek island with his very understanding – as far as his past goes – girlfriend Marie (Franke Potente). He and Marie are still trying to avoid that past and they are constantly on the move. When *Supremacy* opens, we find them on the coast of India, where he is still plagued with nightmares of his fragmented past.

At the same time, a covert CIA operation goes awry in Germany and Bourne is set up as the fall guy. Shortly after that, an assassin is sent to India to take Bourne out but the wrong target is killed and Bourne is sent into a whirling adventure that returns him to the world he thought he left behind.

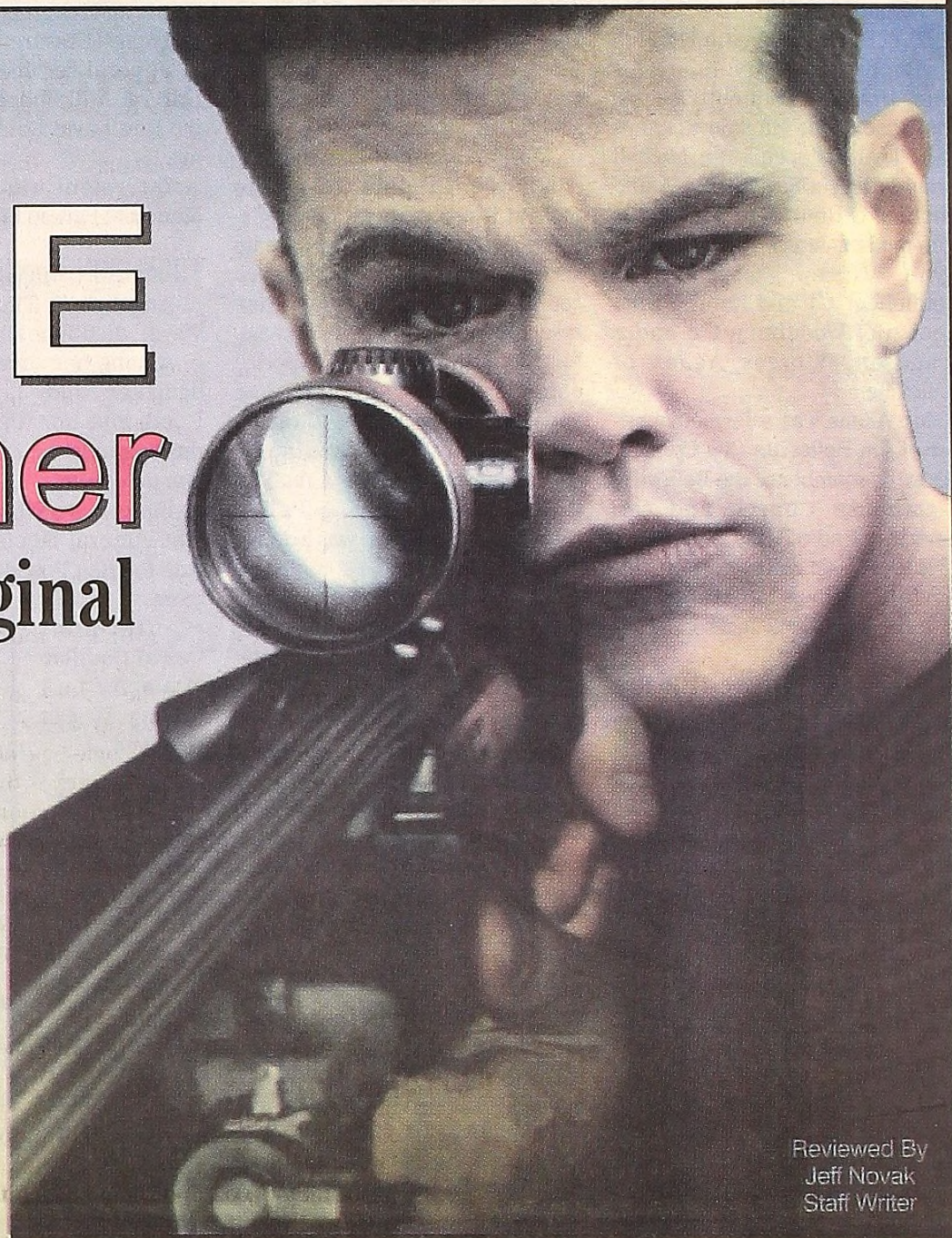
Based on what he's seen, he believes the Treadstone project wants to erase his existence.

Pamela Landy (Joan Allen), the disgruntled agent who headed the Germany debacle, is like a relentless barracuda that bites off more than she can chew when she decides to pursue Bourne. The two forces, both with misconceptions, race head-on at each other—a train wreck waiting to happen. But like all well-filmed and well-written action movies, the protagonist goes up against the antagonist in against-all-odds proportions only to come out, not only on top, but nearly unscathed as well.

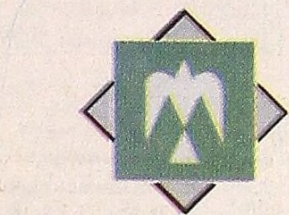
Brian Cox returns as Ward Abbott, the keeper of dark secrets, to add the twist along with Julie Styles as Nicky who returns for a small bit to help Landy locate Bourne.

Again, like all well-made action flicks, *Supremacy* in a non-stop ride that leaves viewers checking to see if they have their seatbelts on. Director Paul Greengrass uses innovative camera angles to add tension to the fight and action scenes but the hand-held cameras get annoying after a while, especially during the car chase between Bourne and Kirill (Karl Urban), the assassin hired to kill

See **BOURNE**, page 13



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Jeff Novak
Staff Writer



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THE SCENE

It's a 'Man Thing'

Marvel launches new supernatural series

Scott Spielman
Editor

Before superheroes took the spotlight in the comic book medium, many books concentrated on the macabre, the supernatural: weird tales about hair-raising incidents that happened to real people.

They were dark and murky, a little campy and definitely creepy.

All of those attributes can be found in the relaunch by Marvel Comics of *Man-Thing*.

Well, except the camp.

Hans Rodionoff, the writer of the upcoming *Man-Thing* film, gives us a preview of his vision for the swamp monster in the series, set appropriately in Louisiana.

He brings us into the story slowly, but his even-paced storytelling keeps us turning the pages, transfixed by the strange world in which the main character, Nathan Mehr, has found himself.

Mehr is no hotshot cop, no col-

orfully-clad superman. He's an insurance adjuster, called to a backwater town in Louisiana to investigate a claim by millionaire industrialist Frederic Schist, who is complaining that eco-terrorists keep ruining his lab. Why he wants to put a laboratory in the middle of a swamp is never really explained, but when you're reading a story about a sentient piece of moss, well, you've got to suspend your disbelief a little.

The readers do, but Mehr doesn't.

He's a no-nonsense kind of guy. He knows his business. He's a bit weary of the job; when we first meet him it's on the plane as he looks out at the clouds, comparing them to an ethereal Rorschach test. The clouds vaguely take on the resemblance of the Man-Thing, and it may be interesting to see if he takes note of that fact later in the story.

He may be tired of his job, but he's dedicated to it. He won't be pushed around or stalled by a recalcitrant sheriff, threatened by would-be lab 'security' people.

Schist may see the visit as a mere formality - he wants his money as soon as possible, but Mehr definitely doesn't.

As he looks around the town, checks out the lab site, the sense of menace and the supernatural slowly bleeds into the story; it's seen in a suspicious glance, the way the damage to the lab and vehicles looks to be done not by men, but by the swamp itself. The vines damaging a bulldozer take on the vague shape of a gnarled fist; knotholes look like eye sockets.

Mehr's response when he takes in the scene is a practical one; he starts poking around and comes up with a small, carved figure, some type of swamp being with green eyes that apparently glow in the moonlight - even though the same swirling clouds cover the moon.

With that small token in hand, he then visits the sheriff, who wants to blame the sudden series of disappearances on a renegade alligator.

He then has one more trip, to

the hospital, where one of the security guards rests in a catatonic stupor. His glassy eyes stare at nothing, until Mehr shows him the small figure.

The guard is graphically transformed, vomits out some veiny type of swamp goo, says a single word - Mantowke - and collapses on the floor.

Mehr's response? Ever the practical man, he simply dials up his boss.

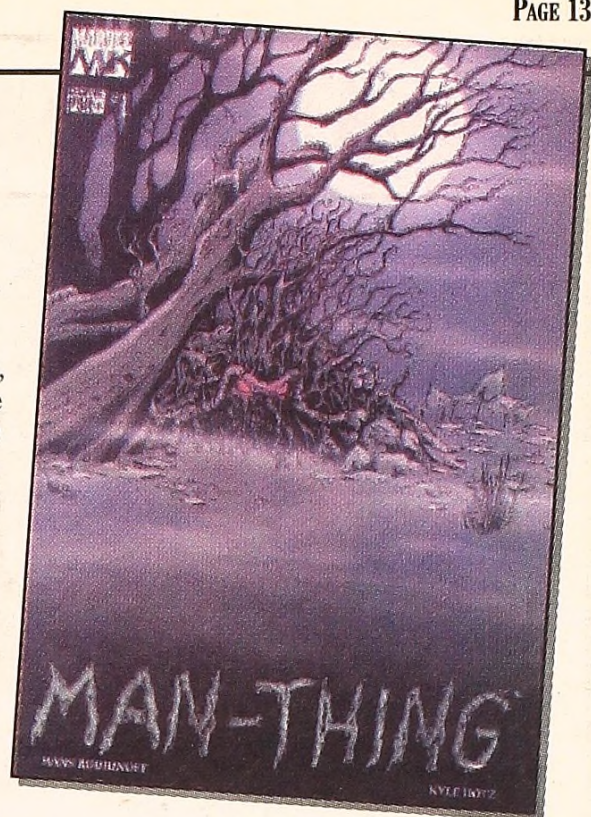
"I'm going to be down in the by-water a little longer than expected," he tells him.

Indeed.

Rodionoff has succeeded in starting a creepy mystery with supernatural tones, the perfect atmosphere for the Swamp-thing to survive. I'm not that familiar with the character, only that it

didn't talk much and was determined to protect its swamp. Its ability was to strike fear in whoever saw it and 'whatever knows fear burns at the Man-thing's touch.'

If that's the case, all who keep up with the series may be in jeopardy.



BOURNE

FROM PAGE 12

Bourne in India. Although the chase scene is incredible, the jumbled camera work had me looking for a barf bag and waiting for an oxygen mask to fall from the overhead compartment. I feel lucky, though, as I was able to leave with my stomach contents intact. Better than some.

My Hollywood insider - OK, maybe I read it in *Entertainment Weekly* - said that in some of the first test screenings some watchers actually lost their lunch during the scene. Greengrass said he was happy with it. I doubt many viewers were.

The plot left too many question marks, another trademark of a well-made summer blockbuster. There was a loose, and I use the term loosely, connection between the Russian assassin Kirill and Bourne, and Abbott and Kirill's boss - too many things left dangling in the wind - and the ending was the typical unnecessary happy-slappy Hollywood nonsense. Very disappointing.

Damon and Cox are stellar along with newcomer Karl Urban, who has made his fame from the *Lord of the Rings* films and most recently the *Chronicles of Riddick* but Allen falls short in her role as the "bad guy." She didn't appear as cunning and ruthless as the character should have or could have been.



Matt Damon as Jason Bourne and Franka Potente as Marie.

Despite a few shortcomings, Supremacy was reminiscent of Identity; a surprise hit for 2002, and should be a hit with viewers. Moviegoers looking for a solid

plot and answers, however, should try the much-altered book.

Fans willing to try the film: don't forget your Dramamine.

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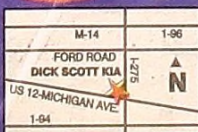


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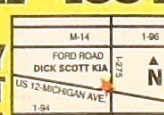
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School employees can now enroll students in district

Scott Spielman
Editor

Public school employees will have an easier time staying close to their families through legislation signed into law last week by Gov. Jennifer Granholm.

The law, which started out as Senate Bill (SB) 599, was sponsored by Sate Rep. Ray Basham (D-Taylor). It basically makes it easier for public school teachers and school professionals to have their children attend school in the same district in which they

work.

It allows them to circumvent portions of the Schools of Choice program to allow their students to attend the district in which they teach or work, according to Basham.

"It makes it a lot easier on the family," Basham said.

Currently, under the Schools of Choice program, teachers and parents may choose to send their children to a district outside their home district, providing that the accepting district participates in the program and operates in the

“
If it's a closed enrollment, it can be a hardship on the employees.
”

State Rep.
Ray Basham

same or a contiguous district. Some districts may not accept non-resident students and others don't participate

in the program, however.

"If it's an open enrollment district, it's not an issue," Basham said. "If it's a closed enrollment, it can be a hardship on the employees." Some districts operate on different schedules as far as breaks, and that can make scheduling difficult.

The change means the districts don't have a choice when the student is the son or daughter of a school employee.

Basham himself admits it's not a huge issue – it only affects about

1,000 people throughout the state – but he said it was brought up to him by a constituent and the plan seemed to make sense.

"Our public school teachers and school personnel provide an important service to the community," he said. "The least we can do is support these individuals and their families by ensuring their children are not denied the opportunity to be near them."

"It's a big deal if you're the parent going through this," he added.

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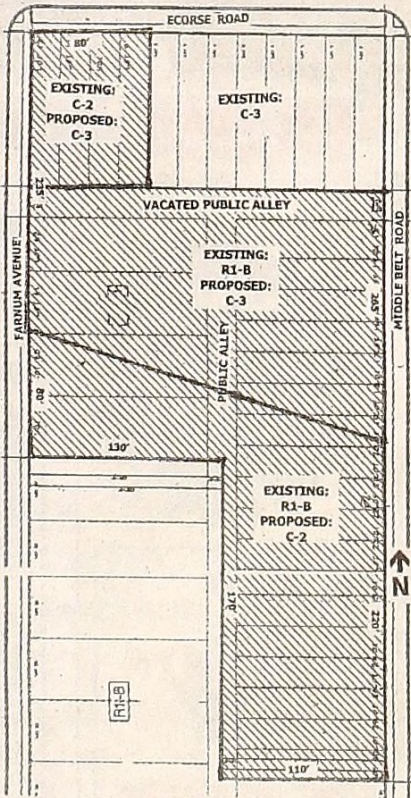
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**CITY OF ROMULUS
PLANNING COMMISSION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING**

Pursuant to Michigan Public Act 207 of 1921, as amended (The City and Village Zoning Act), notice is hereby given that the City of Romulus will hold a public hearing at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 16, 2004, for the purpose of considering a proposed amendment to the Zoning Map. The public hearing will be held at the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

The Planning Commission has set the public hearing to consider a request to rezone approximately 2.20+- acres (9 parcels) DP#'s, 82-80-044-01-0009-300 from C-2 General Business District to C-3 Highway Service District; 82-80-044-01-0013-301, 82-80-044-01-0022-000, 82-80-044-01-0024-300, 82-80-044-01-0026-300 from R1-B, Single Family Residential District to C-2, General Business District; lot 59 and the western portion of lot 58 of DP# 82-80-044-01-0058-000 from R1-B, Single Family Residential District to C-2 General Business District; The eastern portion of lot 58 of DP#82-80044-01-0058-000 from R1-B Single Family Residential District to C-3, Highway Service District, and 82-80-044-01-0060-000, 82-80-044-01-0061-000, 82-80-044-01-0062-000 from R1-B, Single Family Residential District To C-2, General Business District. The request also includes the rezoning of the entire vacated public alley between lots 1 -12, and lots 13 and 62; between lots 59 -62 and lots 13 - 19 and the eastern half of the public alley adjacent to lots 20 -30 of the Ecorse City Community Subdivision. The parcels are located on the south side of Ecorse Road between Middlebelt and Farnum Roads. Copies of the application are available for review at City Hall during regular business hours.



All interested parties are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said request. Written comments may be submitted until 12:00 noon, Monday, August 16, 2004, and should be addressed to Cynthia I. Lyon, AICP, City Planner, Economic Development Department, 11111 Wayne, Romulus, MI 48174-1485.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, City Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: July 29, 2004

**CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN
COUNTY OF WAYNE STATE OF MICHIGAN
ORDINANCE NO. 07-20-04**

First Reading of Ordinance 07-20-04, Second reading for adoption will be held at the 7:30 p.m. regular meeting of the Board of Trustee on Tuesday, August 17, 2004 to be held in the Board Room, in the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111.

An ordinance to amend the Zoning Ordinance 06-02-92, as amended, of the Charter Township of Van Buren, to establish new regulations for Planned Elderly Housing Development (PEHD).

THE CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN HEREBY ORDAINS:

SECTION 7.04.A. PLANNED ELDERLY HOUSEING DEVELOPMENT (PEHD)

Section 1. Article VII, R-1A, R-1B AND R-1C Single Family Residential Districts Section 7.04, Planned Residential Developments (PRD), is hereby amend to include anew subsection "7.04.A, Planned Elderly Housing Development (PEHD)" as follows:

Section 2. Conflicts

Section 3. Severability

Section 4. Effective Date

This ordinance shall be effective upon publication in a newspaper of general circulation within the Township.

This Ordinance is hereby declared to have been adopted by the Township Board of the Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, State of Michigan, at a Regular Meeting, called and held on the day of, 2004.

YEAS: King, Payne, Budd, Hart, Herman, Jahr and Rochowiak.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT:None.

This Ordinance shall be immediately recorded by the Township Clerk in the Township Ordinance Book as soon as it is adopted, which record shall be authenticated by the signatures of the Supervisor and Clerk and shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the Township within ten (10) days after passage.

I hereby approve the foregoing Ordinance.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Clerk

Cindy C. King
Supervisor

Publish: July 29, 2004

Local talent

Newest Westland Idol winner is named

Westland has a new idol, officially designated Thursday evening during the 10th Annual Westland Community Foundation Christmas in July celebration.

Colleen Meyer, 26, of Westland wowed the large crowd at the Hellenic Center with her version of *Cabaret*.

This year, audience members chose the contest winners with a remote control, wireless computer voting system, loaned for the event by the Wayne-Westland Community School District.

Meyer was thrilled, she said, with the win and has always loved to sing. She has performed with the Stage IV group in Wayne and with the Dearborn Players Guild. The human resources assistant at Axxis Corp. and her husband, Christopher, are the parents of a son, Alex, 6.

"I've always loved to sing," the new Westland Idol said. "When child care allows, we love to go out and sing karaoke."

The audience chose Jim Gondek as the second place idol, based on his snappy rendition of *Zoot Suit Riot*. Gondek, 36, of Ypsilanti, works at Ford Motor Co. He has always loved music and used to be in a band.

"Now, karaoke has kind of taken the place of the band. I go

out and sing about once a week," he said.

Third place honors went to Amy Lucas who performed a soulful rendition of the gospel classic, *Swing Low Sweet Chariot*. Lucas, 32, of Wayne, is a familiar face in the area. She has been involved with the City of Wayne Adult Theatre for about 9 years. Single, she is the mother of one daughter, Alyssa, 13.

Lucas is with ReMax Hometeam and said she has always loved to sing.

"I've been doing karaoke for about 10 years. I really love to sing," the third-place winner said.

As first place winner, Meyer was awarded a \$300 check and studio recording time at Jackson Sound Industries. Gondek received \$200 and recording time at Talent Live Studios in Canton Township and Lucas won \$100.

Ten finalists were chosen to compete during pre-competitions at participating area nightspots. Mykill Wayne and Gondek were the winners who qualified for the finals at Chatters, Brian Bennet and Jessica Short competed at the Ford Road Bar, Shiawassee Craig and Charles Sullivan won the competition at Malarkey's and Kevin Long and Meyer won at Marvaso's Italian Grille. Larry

White and Lucas were the winning contestants at Strykers.

Westland Community Foundation President Glenn Shaw, Jr., below left, congratulated the three top winners in the Westland Idol competition during the annual Christmas in July celebration last week. Amy Lucas, next to Shaw, took third place honors, Jim Gondek was the second place winner and Colleen Meyer, at right was chosen by a vote of the audience as the new Westland Idol.



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Double duty

Candidate seeks to join twin sister as judge

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Lawyers, defendants and plaintiffs may be doing 'double takes' when they head to circuit court next year.

If voters choose Audrey Monaghan as a new circuit court judge during the primary election next month and the election in November, Wayne County may make history as having the first set of twin sisters sitting on the bench in the state, maybe even in the country.

If Monaghan is elected to the Wayne County Circuit Court bench, she will serve alongside her twin sister, Judge Annette J. Berry, who was elected four years ago and serves in the criminal division of the courts.

The road each has traveled in their careers has been nearly as identical as the sisters. When Berry first sought office in 1998 she was unsuccessful. She was elected on her second try in 2000. The sisters hope that the same fate will follow Monaghan who sought office two years ago but narrowly missed being elected. She's hoping the second time will be magic, just like her sister.

"It would be kind of funny, being twins, if I'm elected,"

Monaghan said. "The way it would work out the same as it did for Annette. We're ready to make history as the first twins to sit as judges."

Although being the first twins to sit on the Wayne County Circuit Court is unique, it's not the main focus of the campaign. Like her sister, Monaghan has spent long hours on the campaign trail exposing her name to the public.

"I feel good about the campaign," she said. "I don't think that we can work any harder than what we have. We have a lot of support really and I have a quiet confidence about the outcome."

Monaghan knows all about working hard. After receiving her pharmacy degree from Wayne State in 1983 she went on to the Detroit College of Law. She attended school during the day and worked at night in a pharmacy. Her sister worked during the day and went to school at night. Monaghan was also the note and comment editor for the Law Review and worked for the court of appeals while attending law school.

After she graduated with her law degree she has worked as a plaintiff's attorney, a defense attorney, a prosecutor, trial attor-

ney, arbitrator and mediator. She said it is important that she has worked on both sides of the law, prosecution and defense, because she will be able to see both sides of the case and form a more impartial opinion is elected judge.

She also sits on both the YWCA-Southwest and the Father Kern Association board of directors.

If working as an attorney for Citizens Insurance Co. and hitting the campaign trail isn't enough to keep the Plymouth resident busy, her family, including her four children: Lauren, Ethan, Brianna and Steven with husband, Steven, and three stepchildren; Sean, Timothy and Katie certainly does.

Monaghan and her husband are proud of Sean who served 7 years in the armed forces. He recently had to go back to finish up his eighth year.

Monaghan said she has been trying to work with legislators to form a program that would better acclimate retiring soldiers back into society.

Along the campaign trail, Monaghan has picked up endorsements from some local heavy hitters in the political arena such as Steve Mann, Plymouth Township supervisor;

Mark Abbo, Northville Township supervisor; Alan Lambert, mayor of Romulus; Al Haidous, mayor of Wayne; Sandra Cicirelli, mayor of Westland and Tom Yack, Canton Township supervisor among others, as well as several state representatives and senators.

Monaghan said that her 14 years of experience as an attorney has made her proficient in all areas of law and her compassion and dedication to her profession will make her a sound pick for Wayne County Circuit Judge.

"When people go to court they should expect to have a fair and impartial judge hear their case and be treated with respect," she said. "People just want a fair shake. I'm going to try and make a difference one person at a time, one family at a time."

Berry, who recently oversaw the Westland party store murders case, has worked just as hard to reach the seat in circuit court. She graduated from the University of Michigan in 1983 with a bachelor's of arts degree, finished law school at the Detroit College of Law in 1988 and landed a great job as Assistant Attorney General to the State U.S. Prosecutor, Frank Kelley.



Audrey Monaghan as

She and her husband, Jim, have two children, Ashley and James. She also said she plans to run as an incumbent when her term is up in two years.

Berry said she is excited to have her sister campaigning again and feels good that she will get elected this time.

"Audrey will bring a lot of legal expertise along with a balance of compassion and commitment," she said.

"It's about respecting the people of Wayne County. They are willing to support her and I assume that she will not let them down."

Monaghan will be up against seven other candidates at the primary elections on Tuesday, Aug. 3. If she makes it through the primary and all goes well come fall, Michigan might just see history in the making.



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Open registration for the limited spaces is August 2 – August 20. Open registration for Kindergarten only is until October 21. If you have questions about Van Buren Public Schools, please call (734) 697-9123, ext. 209 or visit our web site at www.resa.net/vanburen.



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Feeling sorry for yourself? Read this

For days, the pain grew worse. First in my left shoulder, then in my neck. It became so intense I couldn't sleep. Finally, I went to see my family doctor.

After examining me, I asked what he thought it was.

"Beats me," he replied.

We laughed and he sent me to a specialist.

The specialist poked and prodded and sat down.

"What did your internist say about it?" he asked.

"Beats me," I answered. We laughed and he injected the shoulder with cortisone.

"Come back in week if it's not better," he said.

Walking down the stairs I got caught up in the poor me's. I hate taking pills, hated the pain and most of all hated that we didn't know what was causing the problem.

Walking out the door into a beautiful sunny day, I was basking in self-pity until I looked up. Not 10 feet in front of me was a lovely young woman. She couldn't have been more than 28-30 years old and she smiling. She was also taking probably 20 seconds to move her leg a foot or so in front of her. All alone, she persisted. Lift a foot, reach, and slowly, ever so slowly, bring the body forward. It looked like she

may have suffered a stroke, but there she was, a portrait of courage walking into the rehabilitation clinic.

"Good morning," I said, watching her smile grow wider.

She returned my greeting, and I said a silent, "Thank you Lord" as I was immediately filled with gratitude. What was a little pain compared to such a long journey.

It's so easy to forget when we're caught up in ourselves.

A few days later, this email arrived.

"Hi Jerry—I wrote to you 3 years ago when my son died and (I) told you how hard it was to put that St. Christopher medal in his pocket at the funeral home." (This was after I'd written a column on how I put my very special Kennedy half-dollar in my father's pocket before they closed the casket.)

"A year after that my husband's son died, and I had colon cancer and surgery. My husband had lung cancer and then kidney failure and now dialysis 3 days a week. I think we're all done with things happening to us for awhile, perhaps a 6 month break would be great.

"As you have said one must think of something good from the bad things that happen, well the one thing I did learn is how to spell 'dialysis' so that's not bad.

"I still read your Macomb (Daily) articles every Friday, thanks I enjoy them, keep going with it. I'll end but not before saying Louie Armstrong's song ('What a Wonderful World,') is perfect.

Bye 4 now Barbara."

After reading Barbara's email, I emailed her my immediate thought:

"You inspire me."

So, how's your day going? Anything to complain about? Look around, I'm sure you'll find someone who legitimately can, but doesn't complain about how tough life is.

To contact Jerry go to www.jerrystaneccki.com. If you'd like to receive a weekly proactive thought from Jerry, send your email address through his web site.



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57. Antiques
58. Flea Markets
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
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Leonandra Evans, D53: Sofa, Stereo, loveseat, 7 bags.

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1Y1SK5461LZ165677
1989 Volvo 240DL Station Wagon-White
YV1AX8852K1841436
1988 Ford Mustang 2 Door-Black

1FABP41E6JF279397
1988 Chevrolet Corsica 4 Door-White
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All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

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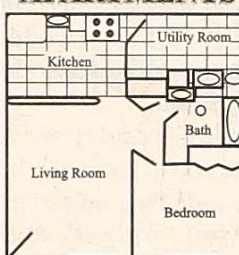
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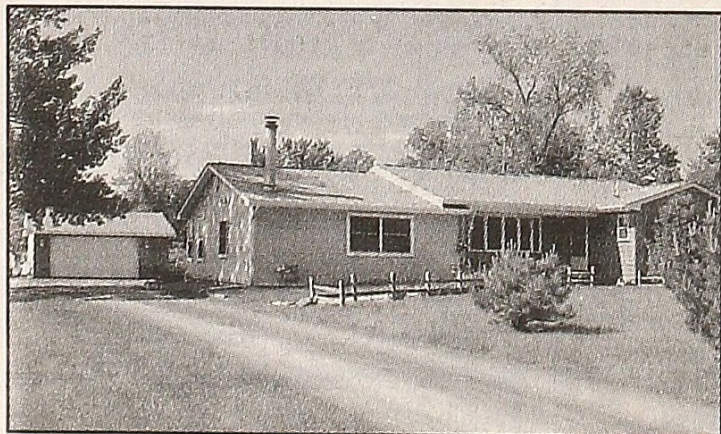
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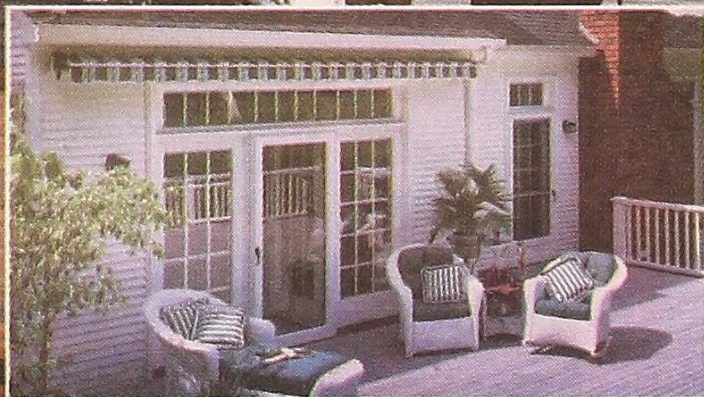
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